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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Memorandum of Conversation

XR 396.1-GE

APPROVED ROBERT MURPHY 7/24/59

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Authorized By: H. D. Brewster

August 4, 1975

DATE: July 16, 1959

CONFIDENTIAL

HAB

VC 058

SUBJECT: Contingency Planning

(1)

Sir Harold Caccia, Ambassador, British Embassy

PARTICIPANTS: Lord Hood, Minister, British Embassy

Mr. Robert Murphy, Deputy Under Secretary

Mr. Ivan White, Deputy Assistant Secretary, EUR

Mr. James W. Wihart, Officer in Charge, United Kingdom, Ireland
and The West Indies

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Ambassador Caccia said with respect to "Live Oak" that the British General had his instructions and that this one should be wrapped up in several weeks. Mr. Murphy observed Lloyd had raised with the Secretary in Geneva the question of the status of our Contingency Planning and that on the military side, Lloyd remarked the U.K. prefers Norstad's B Plan but with no provisions for automatic execution. Lloyd felt that the decision to launch a probe after blockage must be made by governments in the light of the situation at the time. After some discussion regarding the movement order procedure, Lloyd initially stated he would approve it reluctantly, but Laskey reminded him that they had a long paper on this subject which he thought Lloyd should read before giving his final approval.

Ambassador Caccia expressed interest in hearing about this. He stated that he has not seen this paper. He wondered, nevertheless, whether it might not, in effect, say that "we have a plan and we have put in the locker." We can't say however, "come hell or high water" that we would absolutely carry it out in every aspect until we know what we are actually confronted with.

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